



SEGUNDA CONVOCATORIA NACIONAL

2023-2024

“LAS MEJORES TESIS  
PARA PUBLICAR EN EL JMeXFRI”

JMeXFRI

La Federación Mexicana de Radiología e Imagen a través del Journal of the Mexican Federation of Radiology and Imaging (JMeXFRI) invita a participar a:

**Profesores-Tutores y Residentes de Radiología**

de los programas de Especialidad, Subespecialidad, Alta Especialidad, Maestría o Doctorado en la:

**SEGUNDA CONVOCATORIA NACIONAL**

**“Las Mejores Tesis para Publicar en el JMeXFRI”**

Los tutores y/o residentes de las mejores 10 tesis serán apoyados con el Taller de Redacción Científica para la redacción del artículo original y publicación en el JMeXFRI

**BASES DE LA CONVOCATORIA:**

- Las Tesis debe ser un trabajo de investigación original.
- La Tesis puede ser del año académico 2023-2024 o de años previos.
- La Tesis puede ser enviada por el profesor tutor o el residente.
- La Tesis puede ser enviada en archivo Word o PDF.
- El Comité Editorial del JMeXFRI elegirá las mejores 10 tesis para la redacción del artículo original en el Taller de Redacción Científica y su publicación en el JMeXFRI.
- El Taller de Redacción Científica se desarrolla en sesiones virtuales, una vez por semana, con duración de 2 horas. El horario y día se definen, previo acuerdo entre los participantes.

**PERÍODO DE RECEPCIÓN DE TESIS: 15 de octubre del 2023 al 15 marzo del 2024**

**ENVIAR LAS PROPUESTAS DE TESIS A:**

Dr. Mauricio Figueroa Sánchez, *Editor en Jefe del JMeXFRI*: [figueroa\\_sanchez@hotmail.com](mailto:figueroa_sanchez@hotmail.com)

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**RESULTADOS DE LA CONVOCATORIA.** Se informará el resultado, por correo electrónico, a los autores de las Tesis a *partir del 1ero. abril de 2024.*

*“Tres reglas de oro: tener algo que escribir, escribirlo bien... y publicarlo”  
“Los radiólogos que investigan, escriben y publican...enseñan bien, e interpretan mejor”*

ATENTAMENTE

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## What I talk about when I talk about writing scientific articles

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The original scientific article is the main vehicle for communicating science. However, in Mexico, there is a significant disparity between the number of registered research protocols and papers presented at congresses and scientific meetings and the number of scientific articles published across various health science disciplines<sup>1</sup>. Many health research studies do not result in a published original article. The primary limiting factor often lies in the writing process of the scientific article<sup>2</sup>. Recently, the *Journal of the Mexican Federation of Radiology and Imaging (JMeXFRI)* ([www.jmexfri.com](http://www.jmexfri.com)), the official publication of the Federación Mexicana de Radiología e Imagen (FMRI), was launched. Substantial economic resources have been allocated to promote writing and publishing skills for radiologists and residents of the Diagnostic and Therapeutic Imaging Specialty.

The inspiration for the title of this editorial came to me from Haruki Murakami's book "*What I Talk About When I Talk About Writing*," in which he shares ideas and suggestions for tackling the challenge of writing novels and stories<sup>3</sup>. The author emphasizes two fundamental qualities of a writer: a "*passion for reading*" and a "*passion for writing*." Scientific writing is not difficult; what is difficult is overcoming the habit of not writing. Similar to interpreting a radiological image, scientific writing requires learning and training. Academic physicians spend much of their time reading scientific articles describing the results of basic or clinical research, giving them the illusion that they can write scientific articles.

This illusion is similar to the belief that because we watch a lot of movies, we could be a movie director<sup>2</sup>. Moreover, medical specialty programs in Mexico do not include a program for developing skills to write scientific articles; thus, many health research studies do not culminate in a scientific publication.

The knowledge and skills to write and publish scientific articles are not natural or spontaneous. They require a methodology and strict adherence to certain principles. The scientific writing method, based on the book "*Guide to Writing Scientific Articles in the Health Sciences*,"<sup>1</sup> provides the theoretical and conceptual background and the practical skills for writing and publishing original scientific articles. The writing begins with the Results of the original research study presented in tables and figures. The text of this section is written based on the mnemonic "DECIR" (describe, emphasize, complete, interpret, and resume). Once the main result is identified, the *Key Message* is defined, which is the interpretation of the main result that provides new knowledge, adds knowledge to what is known, or presents a new interpretation of what is known. The *Key Message* determines the content of all sections, including the title and aim. Other mnemonics are used to write the Title (*PRECISE*) and Discussion (*6 C's and KNOWS*). The editing process is developed based on the Instructions for Authors of the JMeXFRI<sup>4</sup>.

The "*Guide to Writing Scientific Articles in the Health Sciences*"<sup>1</sup> offers an efficient methodology for scientific

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writing, especially for those who are new to publishing or have published but are still considered inexperienced. It also provides useful information for authors who have already published and want to improve their scientific writing skills. Even those who are already scientific writing experts will find new or already known concepts in this Guide but with a different approach that allows them to write more efficiently.

Writing an original scientific article means that research study data has been analyzed based on a specific and robust research protocol methodology, and an expert has conducted a statistical analysis. So, as soon as it is worth communicating the study results—the *Key Message*—the article should be written and published<sup>1</sup>. The author(s) should not seek perfection because if the writing is delayed until the results are perfect, the article may never be published<sup>5</sup>. The new knowledge contributed by the study is presented from the perspective of the author(s) writing. It is necessary to demonstrate that the contribution to knowledge complements what has been published before in the context of global scientific knowledge. The scientific ideas must be supported by the specific and robust methodology of the research study. The correct definition of the *Key Message* based on the data analysis is a personal process that depends on the skills of the most experienced author with the greatest mastery of the subject matter. The JMeXFRI audience should be kept in mind from the beginning of writing the original scientific article.

Approximately 400 theses are concluded each year in the Specialty, Subspecialty, and High Specialty Programs of Diagnostic Imaging and Therapeutics in Mexico. These theses are usually presented at scientific meetings and national and international congresses. Despite offering novel results and noteworthy findings, a significant number of these original research studies are never published. To address this, the FMRI carried out the “*Primera Convocatoria Nacional 2023*” for “*The Best Theses to be Published in the JMeXFRI*,” targeting professors and residents in the Diagnostic and Therapeutic Imaging Specialty in Mexico. The initiative received submissions from 20 states across the nation, with 43 theses evaluated by an *ad hoc* Committee to identify a *Key Message* in the Results presented in tables, radiological images, and text. The professors and residents of the selected top-tier theses have been supported by the Scientific Writing Workshop (SWW) for optimal writing and publication of original scientific articles in JMeXFRI.

The SWW engages participants nationwide, relying on *virtual interactivity* through distance learning strategies via the Internet, a pivotal component. The collaborative writing team consists of a radiologist, a resident, and the scientific writing editor, who is also the author of the textbook<sup>1</sup>. The SWW sessions, via videoconferences, occur once a week and last two hours. The choice of the time and day of the virtual meeting is based on the availability of the agenda and agreement between the professor-tutor, the resident, and the scientific writing editor. A visiting professor or resident may also attend as an observer.

During the SWW, the resident is assigned theoretical-practical tasks to be completed over a week. The workshop is meticulously hands-on, solely focusing on writing an original scientific article. Resident is expected to dedicate 2 to 3 hours a day to developing his scientific manuscript. The resident must have a passion for reading and writing and a talent for critical reading. The article will be written in Spanish over a period of approximately 8 to 10 weeks. Then, an American English version is edited by a scientific expert proficient in English. The editorial certificate, along with the manuscript, is forwarded to JMeXFRI. Original scientific articles undergo a rigorous, double-blind peer review before being accepted for publication. In this Issue 3 of the JMeXFRI, all five original articles emanate from theses that participated in the “*Primera Convocatoria Nacional 2023*”. The authors participated in the SWW to write and publish their original scientific article.

The original scientific article is a masterpiece of intellectual art: writing means rethinking and reformulating what is known. When the author decides to write after research, a passion for reading, writing, and many hours of hard work are required. The decision to write an original scientific article must be made with the firm belief that what we write and publish is important because it contributes a new idea or knowledge through the *Key Message*: the essence of an original scientific article. If you do not enjoy writing a scientific article, you are better off devoting your time to other tasks, such as patient care or teaching. There are no shortcuts to acquiring scientific article writing skills. You must go through the process of writing, reading, revising, reading, and rewriting. When you write scientific articles, you think differently—“*Radiologists who research, write, and publish... teach well and interpret better.*”

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### ***Conflicts of interest***

The author discloses no potential conflicts of interest.

### ***Ethical disclosures***

**Protection of Individuals.** Not applicable.

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**Right to privacy and informed consent.** The author declares no ethical responsibilities since confidential information was not presented.

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